

absent twice to my knowledge according to what I remember now.

Q. And where did you go in regard to that timber deal? A. To Vancouver. (Loud laughter.)

Q. And anywhere else? A. No.

Q. And with whom were you dealing? A. Oh, I was not dealing with anybody.

Q. Well, what I mean— A. It was in connection with the timber deal, but I was not making the timber deal.

Q. Whose deal was it? A. It was a deal made between my sons acting for Mr. Newell and Mr. J. A. Dewar.

Q. And you were there? A. I was interested in the thing sufficiently that I liked to be here, and I was here on both occasions.

Q. I see that there is a mention of the sum of \$10,000 that you got? A. Well, I did not get it. My sons got more than that, though. (Laughter.)

Q. And do you know how much your sons got out of it? A. I don't know exactly, but I know it was more than \$10,000.

Q. \$20,000? A. Oh, no. It was something in the neighborhood of \$12,000, I think, but I don't know the exact amount.

Q. How long was it before you resigned that these commissioners visited you? A. Well, I have been trying to think that over, and as nearly as my recollection can go, it must have been in November or December when they visited Nelson.

Q. So it was only a short time before your resignation? A. Yes. Well, it was before I quit finally.

He then states that he "had been calculating to quit for 18 months," and had so informed Sir Richard McBride, who was not the minister of that department.

Question 199 then asks—"Who was the minister of the department then?" A. Mr. Tatiow was at that particular time.

Q. Did you communicate with Mr. Tatiow about your resignation? A. I think I did later on.

Peculiar Type of Servant.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I have quoted those questions and answers without doing any violence to the context which I have only omitted because I cannot take up your time. But I think these sworn statements of Mr. Lucas' clearly prove that he was a very peculiar type of civil servant. (Applause.) He had a private arrangement with Premier McBride that permitted him to flout the orders of his immediate superior, Mr. McKilligan, and Capt. Tatiow, the minister of that department. He left his post when it suited him in spite of

remonstrance from both these men; he came twice to Vancouver to help put through a timber deal which brought \$12,000 into the family purse. (Laughter.) He was interviewed by the commission of which Mr. Cotsworth was chairman, in the month of November or December and he later wrote the minister of finance his resignation which took effect that same month of December, as we have stated. (Applause.) These are his own admissions under oath, and I assure you that if he ever permits this case to get into court, the documents in our possession will abundantly account for the points wherein he contradicts our published statements. (Loud applause.)

I may add here also that when Messrs. Lucas & Lucas wrote their letter to the "News-Advertiser" in May last, they adroitly induced the public to believe that they had issued a writ for Mr. Cotsworth, and could not set the case down for trial until his statement of defense had been filed. Therefore, the idea was that we were holding back the case. But the truth was that they had not served Mr. Cotsworth with any writ, and it was not until ten days later, as he stood at the back of this hall, beside me at our last meeting here, that Mr. Cotsworth received a writ. And it was then two weeks too late to set the case down for trial before September. (Applause.) But September has come and gone, and they have made not a move to bring on the trial. The whole thing so far has been a bold bid for public opinion, and if that case reaches court before the next election it seems to me that we ourselves will have to force the issue. (Applause.)

Attack on Mr. Cotsworth.

And now I want to say a word regarding Mr. Bowser's attack on Mr. Cotsworth. That attack, made on a man who was refused a ticket to Mr. Bowser's meeting and three times refused admittance at the door, needs to be exposed for what it is; though I insist that "Moses is not the issue." ("Hear, hear!") It consists of two main charges. First, that Mr. Cotsworth himself was a land-grabber, exactly like those whom we have exposed in this pamphlet. Second, that he used unfair and underhand methods to dispossess honest pre-emptors from their holdings, that he himself might secure them. Now, sir, I say fairly and squarely that both these charges are utterly and contemptibly false. (Loud applause.) Strong language, you say. Yes, but I am going here and now to prove it, and, when an attack like this has been made on a man's character, and the